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IN THE CLAIMS:

APR 27 2001

Please add new claim 12 as shown in attached Exhibit A. TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Please amend claims 9-11 as shown in attached Exhibits B and C.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.21(c)(1)(i), a clean copy of claims 9-11 is being submitted as Exhibit B. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), a conventionally marked-up version of amended claims 9-11 is being submitted as Exhibit C.

REMARKS

This Response to Restriction Requirement, Election of Invention, and Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed March 19, 2001, wherein the Examiner indicated that under 35 U.S.C. § 121, three patentably distinct inventions were claimed, thus a restriction requirement was issued. Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, namely, the method for detecting LDL and denatured LDL in blood in claims 1-8.

By the present Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 9-11 and added new claim 12. Consequently, claims 1-12 are currently pending. Entry of this Amendment and early reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.